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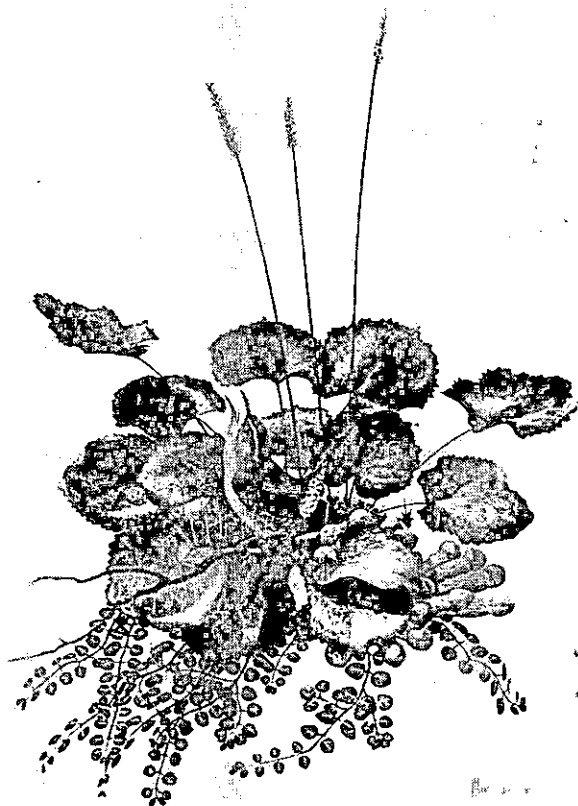
The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

VOL. 59

NOVEMBER, 1983

NO. 4



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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Editor B. R. Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ.,
Bowling Green 42101

Assistant Editor Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green

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Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm

Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

OUR COVER

We thank our gifted staff artist, Ray Harm, for this painting of the Carolina Wren.

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1983

ANNE L. STAMM

Drought conditions affected much of the state during July, with ponds drying up by mid-month. It was the third driest July on record; less than an inch of rain was recorded in the Louisville area, the lowest amount since the 1930's. The temperature in June was just about average, however, July was unusually warm, with 23 days of 90 to 102 degrees. Some birders failed to go out in July because of the intense heat.

There were more reports on the breeding birds of the state than in some previous years. Many House Wrens occupied houses erected for Eastern Bluebirds in Warren County. The June breeding bird surveys in Carter, Greenup, Hardin, Hopkins, Christian, Henry and Larue Counties showed some interesting gains and losses in the birdlife from previous years. The Blue Grosbeak reached extreme northeastern Kentucky and the second nest for the House Finch was found in Warren County. Other comments on the occurrence of birds during June and July will be found listed below.

Loons through Bitterns — Most Common Loons had left by late May, but one was still present at Kentucky Lake on June 20 (BPB). Great Blue Herons were scattered in small numbers, but "several dozen" were in the bottomland of Union County on June 19 (BPB) and there were high counts of seven on July 23 at East Bend, Boone County (LMc) and six at the Falls of the Ohio on July 27 (LR). Green Herons were in low numbers at the Falls of the Ohio (S, LR) and in most of the state, with the exception of the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery area, where 65 adults and immatures were present on July 30 (FB). Two adult Little Blue Herons were at Lentz's Pond, Louisville, July 30 (JC) and four immatures at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery July 25-30 (FB). One to three Great Egrets were reported from the Falls of the Ohio on numerous occasions during July (m. ob.), and seven was the high there on July 28 (JC); one along the Ohio near Petersburg on June 8 was of interest (LMc). Numbers of Black-crowned Night Herons were slightly higher at the Falls of the Ohio this season than in 1982, with counts of 135 to 175 on July 8, 9 and 26, with about 55% immatures (LR, BPB, S). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were reported from five locations and five nests were found in the small colony at Lexington (RM, MF). A Least Bittern was flushed in mid-June on the Falls of the Ohio by Max Medley (*vide* BPB).

Waterfowl — Several female Mallards with young were reported from Rowan County during June (FB), a female with nine young in Boone County (LMc) and one successful nesting in Jefferson County (MR). Wood Ducks had a good season in Boone and Rowan Counties (LMc, FB). A male Blue-winged Teal was seen in Todd County in June (CP).

Hawks — A flock of 33 Turkey Vultures was seen resting on a TV tower in eastern Jefferson County on July 19 (S, FS). A nest with two young Black Vultures was found in an abandoned farm house on June 11 in Henry County (WB). Hawks were scarce in the Owensboro area (RI). A few Cooper's Hawks were reported: a pair nested successfully and fledged two young at the Falls of the Rough (KCl). Red-tailed Hawks were about normal in number in most areas: two young banded in a nest in Madison County on May 18 (PM). Red-shoulder Hawks continued to be scarce; only two were recorded on ten surveys in Hopkins County (JH). Broad-winged Hawks were found in Kenton and Grayson Counties during

the period (EG, KCl). An immature Bald Eagle at Taylorsville Dam on Salt River on June 8 was unusual (Todd Brown *vide* WB).

Bobwhite through Shorebirds — There were mixed comments on the Bobwhite. On the Casey County Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter BBS) the species was "way down" (FL); "still below levels of 1977 and before and down slightly from last year" on both Radcliff and Hodgenville BBS's (LS): increased considerably in Hopkins County over 1982 (AS, JH). A Killdeer nest with four eggs was found in Fleming County on the Maxey Flats low-level radioactive waste site on March 25 (WB) and was the only report on breeding of this species. Killdeers frequently gather in flocks after nesting season and the count of 45 at the Hatchery in Rowan County July 30 was of interest (FB); the 20+ and 35 at Pulaski County Park and Goose Pond on June 20, may have included some breeding birds (JEL, JH, respectively). A Ruddy Turnstone was on schedule at the Falls of the Ohio, July 24, (JEL, BPB), however, the majority of the southbound shorebirds arrived a bit later than usual and the migration had not built up to very large numbers by the end of July. A Greater Yellowlegs made its appearance at the Falls of the Ohio on July 21 (LR), a Lesser on July 22 (LR, BPB) and eight of the latter at Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on July 30 (FB). Two Pectoral Sandpipers arrived at the Falls of the Ohio on July 20 (LR, BPB), 30 on July 24 (BPB) and 65 at the above Hatchery on July 30 (FB). Other species occurring at the Falls of the Ohio included a Baird's on July 29 (LR) and a Least Sandpiper on July 5 (GA) and only five later in the month (BPB); 22 present at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on July 30 (FB). A Short-billed Dowitcher was also reported on July 20 at the Falls of the Ohio (LR).

Gulls and Terns — A few Herring Gulls lingered at the Falls of the Ohio until June 19-21 (JEL, LR). A single Ring-billed Gull was last seen on the above location on June 3 (BPB), but a few fall migrants appeared there on July 25 (LR); four at Kentucky Lake on June 20 (BPB). A Forster's Tern was present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 20 (LR). The late spring migration may have delayed Caspian Terns in their northward movement since two were at the Falls of the Ohio on June 3 (BPB) and singles lingered until June 12 (LR) and 16 (JC); two were at Smithland Dam on June 20 (BPB); and three at the former location on July 5 tied the record of 1982 (GA, BPB): they were probably returning southward ahead of the cold front.

Doves through Hummingbirds — Mourning Doves had a good nesting season and were common everywhere. There were mixed reports on the breeding of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo: numbers down on the Casey County BBS (FL); reduced numbers in the Louisville area (S), Eubank and Somerset (JEL); but numbers jumped from two to 19 on the southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties BBS (AS). A single pair of Black-billed Cuckoos was seen at Fort Wright on July 5 and may have been breeding birds (EG). Three nests of Great Horned Owls were found in Madison County, with three young fledged—one nest was unsuccessful (PM); call notes heard in Daviess County (RI) and in three Jefferson County locations (BPB, S). The call of the Chuck-will-widow at the beginning of the Casey County BBS was of special interest (FL). Common Nighthawks were scarce in St. Matthews, where formerly they had been numerous (S). Chimney Swifts showed drastic decreases in the past two years on the southern Hopkins and northern Christian County BBS (AS) and some decrease on the Pleasureville BBS in Shelby County (S); absent

at one former Louisville nesting site (S). Only three Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were recorded on ten bird surveys in different sections of Hopkins County during June (JH); low numbers in Owensboro (RI); but good numbers present at Falls of the Rough (KCI) and at Anchorage (EP).

Flycatchers through Wrens — Quite unusual was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Livingston County, June 20 (BPB). A total of 19 Acadian Flycatchers was observed at Elk Creek in Hopkins County, July 6 (JH). A Willow Flycatcher was seen and heard near Petersburg on May 27 and still present on June 8 (LMc); one at Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on June 8, 15 and July 30 (FB). Four Least Flycatchers were heard singing on the summit of Big Black Mountain on June 26, but no nests were found (R. Cassell and BPB). A flock of 11 Tree Swallows was seen at Goose Pond, Hopkins County on June 20 and may have been breeding birds (JH); a pair on a tree snag in the lake at Long Run County Park (S, FS); young out of the nest being fed were noted along the Ohio River in Union County (BPB). Bank Swallows nested at Doe Run Lake in Kenton County (EG) and in two colonies, both in gravel pits, in western Boone County (LMc). Decreases were noted in Rough-winged Swallows in southern Hopkins County (AS) and smaller numbers nested in Henry County than in 1982 (S). Cliff Swallows nested later and numbers were greatly reduced in western Kentucky due to the high water in the lakes and rivers (CP); forty-seven nested successfully at the marina located near Gilbertsville (RF). Fewer Purple Martins nested in Seneca Park than in 1982 (S, FS). Twelve nests of the House Wren were recorded at Bowling Green (HS); recorded on the Casey County BBS for the first time (FL). Carolina Wrens showed increases in Hopkins County (AS, JH). A small colony of Sedge Wrens (Short-billed Marsh Wrens) was discovered six miles east of Hodgenville in Larue County on July 30 (BM).

Thrushes through Shrikes — An empty, double nest of the American Robin was found at Fort Wright on June 4 (EG). Robins were down from 88 in 1982 to 47 in 1983 on the Pleasureville BBS (S). The Wood Thrush was down in numbers in the Louisville area (S) and also on the Hodgenville BBS (LS). Eastern Bluebirds were much more noticeable than for sometime. Lawrence D. Smith reported "best numbers since 1973 and 1974" on the Hodgenville BBS and also on the Radcliff BBS, where the species was almost back to levels of 1975; good numbers and several successful nestings at Owensboro and Maceo (RI) and Bowling Green (HS). Cedar Waxwings were common in some areas and absent in others; only two birds on ten June field trips in Hopkins County (JH); individuals were seen on BBS routes in Henderson, Union, Webster, Johnson, Taylor and Pike Counties (BPB); present throughout the period at Burlington area (LMc) and nests found at Louisville (BPB). The Loggerhead Shrike was not seen for the past three years on the Daniel Boone BBS (southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties) and may have disappeared from the route (AS).

Vireos through Warblers — Ten field trips in different areas of Hopkins County during June showed a total of 41 White-eyed Vireos and a total of 18 Red-eyed Vireos (JH); a gradual decrease noted for the latter species on the Daniel Boone BBS—only one this year as compared with 10 in 1969 (AS). Warbling Vireos were missing from some areas in the Louisville region where formerly they had nested (S); seven were recorded at Lake Pewee on June 7 (JH). A Swainson's Warbler was heard in Pennyryle State Park in June (AS) and one at Elk Creek in Hopkins

County on June 17 (JH). Worm-eating Warblers were present in at least two areas in Boone County throughout the period (LMc). Cerulean Warblers continued to remain scarce in Boone County (LMc). Ovenbirds were present during June at the Boone County Cliffs Preserve and were probably breeding there, as were Louisiana Water-thrushes and Kentucky Warblers (LMc). The latter species was well distributed in western and northern Hopkins County (JH). In some sections of the state, the Common Yellowthroat was doing very well: almost 100% increase on the BBS in southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties (AS); one hundred ten recorded on a breeding distribution study in Hopkins County during June (JH); increase in numbers in Rowan, Carter and Greenup Counties (FB); but fewer on the Pleasureville BBS (S). Yellow-breasted Chats were doing much better than in 1982 in Hopkins County (AS, JH), "holding" on the Radcliff and Hodgenville BBS's (LS) and lower in the Louisville area (S).

Blackbirds through Sparrows—Two Bobolinks were present in Henry County on June 4 (FS), one was heard in northern Taylor County on June 5 (BPB) and a few were breeding in Oldham County (BBC). Eastern Meadowlarks were down 52% from 1982 on the Pleasureville BBS (S). The species seemed to be below normal levels in Jefferson County, too (S). Scarlet Tanagers were present in good numbers throughout the period in Boone County (LMc). The Blue Grosbeak continued its spread eastward and one was found in Greenup County on June 26 (FB). In central Kentucky, the Indigo Bunting showed a slight decline on both the Hodgenville and Radcliff BBS's (LS). The House Finch increased substantially in the Owensboro area (RI). The Grasshopper Sparrow was reported above average in number on the Hodgenville BBS (LS). Two Bachman's Sparrows were observed in eastern Calloway County on June 21 (BPB). Chipping Sparrows showed sharp decreases this summer in Greenup and Carter Counties (FB). The Field Sparrow continued to be low in numbers in many sections (S). The Song Sparrow was common at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, where it is usually a rare irregular summer resident (JH).

Correction—The date of the 17 Sandhill Cranes at Otter Creek should have been March 23 instead of May 23 as stated in the Spring Migration of 1983 (*Ky. Warbler*, 59: 40, 1983). Also, in the same paper, due to an oversight, the name of Virginia Rommel was omitted in the list of contributors, although her initials (VR) were used.

Contributors—Garrett Adams (GA), W. H. Brown (WB), Kathryn Clay (KCl), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Robert M. Fisher (RF), Michael Flynn (MF), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Philip Mastrangelo (PM), Robert Morris (RM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), E. Porter (EP), Lene Rauth (LR), Michael Ryan (MR), Herbert Shadowen (HS), Lawrence D. Smith (LS), Allen R. Stickly (AS), F. W. Stamm (FS), Anne L. Stamm (S). Other abbreviations—Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Breeding Bird Survey (BBS).

Information on the Fall Migration (August, September, October and November) should reach the writer no later than December 7. These seasonal reports would not be possible without the continued cooperation of our members. Gratitude is extended to all participants. — 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING — SEPT. 23-25, 1983

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 1983 Fall Meeting at Kentucky Dam Village State Park September 23-25.

The K.O.S. members were greeted by President Pierre Allaire at 7:30 p.m. The program consisted of a discussion of the birds of Minor Clark Fish Hatchery in Rowan County by Fred Busroe and an introduction to the Land Between the Lakes by Wildlife Biologist Wally Bryans. Field trips in the Land Between the Lakes were planned for Saturday with leaders Allaire, Ferrell, and Peterson. A social hour and refreshments followed the Friday evening program.

Clear beautiful weather greeted the K.O.S. members on Saturday as they moved out into the surrounding area for field trips. A total of 109 species of birds was recorded during the day. An interesting afternoon program on the Eastern Bluebird was presented by Marcus Cope, Wildlife Biologist.

The evening meeting began at 7:50 p.m. with President Allaire presiding. He introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., K.O.S. member from Louisville, who gave an informative lecture on the 6th Edition of the A.O.U. Checklist. Dr. Monroe is Chairman of the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. Many of the recently announced name changes appeared more logical after hearing the examples presented.

A short business meeting followed the program. It was announced that the Spring Meeting would be held at Berea College April 27-29. Mrs. Anne Stamm, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, gave the report of the Committee as follows: President: Pierre Allaire; Vice President: Fred Busroe; Recording Secretary: Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver; Cor. Sec.-Treasurer: Miss Harriet Korfhage; Councillors (1983-1985): Wayne Mason and Jim Durell. The slate was elected without opposition. Editor Blaine Ferrell announced that the printer had produced some faulty copies of the August issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* and that anyone receiving a faulty copy should inform the Cor. Sec.-Treasurer so that another copy could be mailed.

President Allaire called Mrs. Anne Stamm to the front and presented a plaque to her in recognition and appreciation of her many years of vigorous and distinguished service to the Kentucky Ornithological Society. This recognition was greeted with warm applause by the K.O.S. members. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

On Sunday morning additional field trips were made by some of the members. A total of 109 bird species was reported.

Respectfully submitted,
H. E. Shadowen
Acting Recording Secretary

BIRDS REPORTED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING IN THE VICINITY OF KENTUCKY DAM VILLAGE STATE PARK

September 23-25, 1983

Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Canada Goose, Snow Goose, Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal,

American Widgeon, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, American Kestrel, Bobwhite, Turkey, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Stilt Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Sanderling, Wilson's Phalarope, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Caspian Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow. — Total species: 112.

ATTENDANCE AT THE K.O.S. 1983 FALL MEETING AT KENTUCKY DAM VILLAGE STATE PARK

BLANDVILLE: Newton Belt

BOWLING GREEN: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Shadowen

GILBERTSVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Conrad

HAZARD: Dr. Donnie Spencer

JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire

Lexington: Mr. and Mrs. James Williams

LOUISVILLE: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Sue Henderson, John Krull, Dr. Burt Monroe, Jr., Barry Nichols, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm

MOREHEAD: Dr. Fred Busroe

MURRAY: Dr. and Mrs. Hunter Hancock, Mike Miller, Dr. Clell Peterson, Paul Sturm

OWENSBORO: Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mrs. Emogene Lashbrook, Mrs. Juanita Hatcher, Mr. and Mrs. Al Powell, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson

PADUCAH: Aline Arnold, Mrs. Damon Caddell, Mrs. Ethel Woolfenden

PERRY: Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Sandlin

STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson

DYERSBURG, TN.: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Report of the Treasurer
For the Fiscal Year 1982-1983

GENERAL FUND

Cash Balance as of September 30, 1982 \$ 556.05

Receipts

Membership Dues	\$2,116.00	
Interest on Endowment C.D.	\$ 169.32	
Other Interest Income	\$ 473.92	
Meetings	\$ 228.00	
Sales of Checklists, Patches, etc.	\$ 49.45	\$3,036.69
TOTAL		\$3,592.74

Disbursements

Printing: <i>Kentucky Warbler</i> , 4 issues	\$1,865.03	
Mailings: Envelopes for the <i>Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$ 143.33	
Postage and Bulk Mailing Permit	\$ 173.00	
Supplies — labels, envelopes, etc.	\$ 23.26	
Meetings Expenses	\$ 185.40	
Nature Conservancy Dues	\$ 10.00	
Kentucky State Filing Fee	\$ 2.00	
Banking Charges: Service Fees	\$ 16.03	
Safe Deposit Box Rental	\$ 18.00	
Interest Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund	\$ 120.61	
Transfer of Life Memberships to Endowment (2)	\$ 150.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 46.57	\$2,753.23
Cash Balance in First National Bank — September 23, 1983		\$ 839.51

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Future Federal — September 30, 1982	\$1,114.12
Accumulation of Interest on C.D. #13-14-660944	\$ 169.32
Certificates of Deposit:	\$3,500.00
Colonial Federal: 2 — \$1,000.00 each	
Future Federal: 1 — \$1,500.00 each	
ENDOWMENT FUND TOTAL	\$4,783.44

Receipts

Interest on Savings (3 quarters)	\$ 47.45	
Life Memberships (2)	\$ 150.00	
Interest on Certificates	\$ 353.31	\$ 550.76
		\$5,334.20

Disbursements

Transfer of Interest to General Fund	\$ 522.63
	<u>\$4,811.57</u>
Certificates of Deposit	\$3,500.00
Balance in Savings Account at Future Federal — September 22, 1983	\$1,311.57
TOTAL	<u>\$4,811.57</u>

THE GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in Savings Account	\$ 372.80
(Great Financial Federal — September 30, 1982)	
Certificates of Deposit — 2 at \$1,000.00 each	\$2,000.00
Accumulated Interest on C.D. #11-11-20014	\$ 144.26
as of September 30, 1982	
	<u>\$2,517.06</u>

Receipts

Interest on Savings	\$ 20.49	
Interest on Certificates	\$ 249.78	\$ 270.27
Fund Balance, September 23, 1983		<u>\$2,787.33</u>

Certificates of Deposit (2 @ \$1,000.00)	\$2,000.00
Balance in Savings, September 23, 1983	\$ 513.90
Accumulated Interest on C.D. #11-11-20014 September 23, 1983	\$ 273.43
	<u>\$2,787.33</u>

**BALANCE SHEET
September 23, 1983****Assets**

Cash-General Fund	\$ 839.51
Endowment Fund	\$4,811.57
Gordon Wilson Fund	\$2,787.33
TOTAL	<u>\$8,438.41</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 36.00
NET WORTH	<u>\$8,402.41</u>

John Krull, Treasurer

FIELD NOTES

CEDAR WAXWINGS NESTING IN WARREN COUNTY

Information pertaining to the breeding status of Cedar Waxwings (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) in Kentucky is incomplete. Although the species is regarded as breeding locally east and north of the Purchase and Pennyrite (Mengel 1965: 372, *The Birds of Kentucky*, A.O.U. Monogr. 3; Barbour et al. 1973, *Kentucky Birds: A Finding Guide*), few documented nesting records exist west of the Cumberland Plateau and mountains. Nests have been recorded from southcentral Kentucky, however, breeding season observations in Warren and Edmonson Counties do exist (Mengel 1965: 372, *The Birds of Kentucky*, A.O.U. Monogr. 3; Wilson et al. 1962, *Ky. Warbler* 38: 3). It is the purpose of this field note to document the discovery of an active nest of this species in southcentral Kentucky.

On the morning of 25 June 1983, a nest of Cedar Waxwings was found on the Western Kentucky University campus, Bowling Green, near the corner of Chestnut and Fourteenth Streets across from the north wing of the Thompson Complex for Science. It was situated approximately 30 feet (9 meters) above the ground in a White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and was anchored in the fork of a horizontal branch approximately 10 feet (3 meters) out from the main trunk. The nest was somewhat bulky and loosely woven; string, twine, coarse grasses and small twigs comprised the majority of nesting materials. The cup was lined with plant down. On the day of its discovery, four oval, bluish-gray eggs finely peppered with small, dark brown spots were observed. The female was incubating at the time the nest was found.

In addition to this nesting record, we observed several Cedar Waxwings on 28 June 1983 in nearby Butler County. Although no nests were located, the behavior of the birds observed indicated possible nesting in the Cottonwoods (*Populus deltoides*) that lined the reclaimed strip mine pits owned by the Peabody Coal Company. We believe this to be the first report of this species during the breeding season in Butler County. — WAYNE M. MASON and BLAINE R. FERRELL, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY

On 19 June 1983, I was in Livingston County conducting a Breeding Bird Survey for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service when I came upon a most unexpected bird. I had just pulled up to the forty-eighth stop, which is approximately 1.5 miles west of Burna, Kentucky on SR-763, and gotten out of the car when I noticed a peculiar looking light-gray bird sitting about five feet above the ground on a barbed-wire fence. Through the binoculars, the bird's long, forked tail immediately identified it as a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*). In addition to the long tail, the bird had a slim, black bill; whitish belly; dark wings; light gray head, neck throat and back; a pinkish wash to the flanks and bright reddish wing linings. When flared in flight, the tail had light edges due to a pattern of white in the outer tail feathers.

After watching the bird for several minutes and taking a few photographs, I completed the last two stops of the survey and returned to find the bird still sallying from the fence for passing insects. It spent most of the next three-quarters of an hour working the periphery of a small

pasture before stair-stepping another fenceline to the north and disappearing over a small knoll.

Interestingly, the flycatcher was not accepted by the local avian fauna. It was chased several times by territorial Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) and harassed for several minutes by a feisty Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) which hovered over and repeatedly dove at the odd-looking visitor. These attacks evoked the characteristic "kek" note of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher several times. Besides catching winged insects, the flycatcher also stooped to the vegetation and retrieved a ripe blackberry which it immediately swallowed.

This is the sixth record of the Scissor-tail Flycatcher in Kentucky and the first record documented by a photograph. The first five records are summarized as follows: 27 August 1924, a single bird at Versailles, Woodford Co. (Wilson Bull. 37:41), was regarded by Mengel as Hypothetical; 6 August 1967, two birds at Fort Knox, Hardin Co. (Ky. Warbler 52: 53) was regarded by Monroe, Jr. (Ky. Warbler 52: 53) as hypothetical; 2 May 1966, a single bird at Forks of the Elkhorn, Franklin Co. (Ky. Warbler 42: 30-31); spring 1963, a single bird 5 miles west of Owensboro (Ky. Warbler 42: 31); 4 June 1977, a single bird on the Ballard Co. Wildlife Management Areat (Burt L. Monroe, Jr., pers. comm.). — BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Rd., Louisville.

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

BRUCE POUNDSTONE of Lexington, Kentucky has received the "Volunteer of the Year" award from the Kentucky Nature Conservancy at its annual meeting. Bruce is a charter member of the Kentucky chapter of the Nature Conservancy and served as chairman from 1975 to 1977.

DR. RUSSELL AND MRS. FAYE STARR of Glasgow, Kentucky have donated their 95-acre wildlife refuge, *Brigadoon*, to the Nature Conservancy. The 140 year old mixed hardwood forest on Barren River Reservoir will be managed by Western Kentucky University for wildlife research purposes through Dr. Herbert Shadowen and Mr. Wayne Mason, members of K.O.S.

1983 MIDWINTER BIRD COUNT

Forms for the Midwinter Bird Count will be mailed out in November. If you desire to participate as a compiler and have not received the forms by December 1, please contact the Editor. All birds recorded must be within a 15-mile diameter circle. Extraordinary sightings should be accompanied with a verification form which will be provided to each compiler.

MOVING?

If you are moving or changing address, please notify the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer in order that the mailing of the Kentucky Warbler may be carried out expeditiously. Thank you.